IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

SANDERS, John L. et al

Serial No.: 10/708,722 Filed: March 19, 2004

ANIONIC POLYMERS COMPOSED OF

DICARBOXYLIC ACIDS AND USES

THEREOF

Docket No. 30621-DIV3-CIP1

Customer No.: 23589

Group Art Unit No: 1762

Confirmation No.: 2721

Examiner: TSOY, Elena

Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above application on the merits, entry of the following amendment is requested.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.